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THE Fats and Oils SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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WHOLESALE PRICES OF FATS AND OILS, BY SPECIFIED GROUPS, LEADING MARKETS, 1937-41

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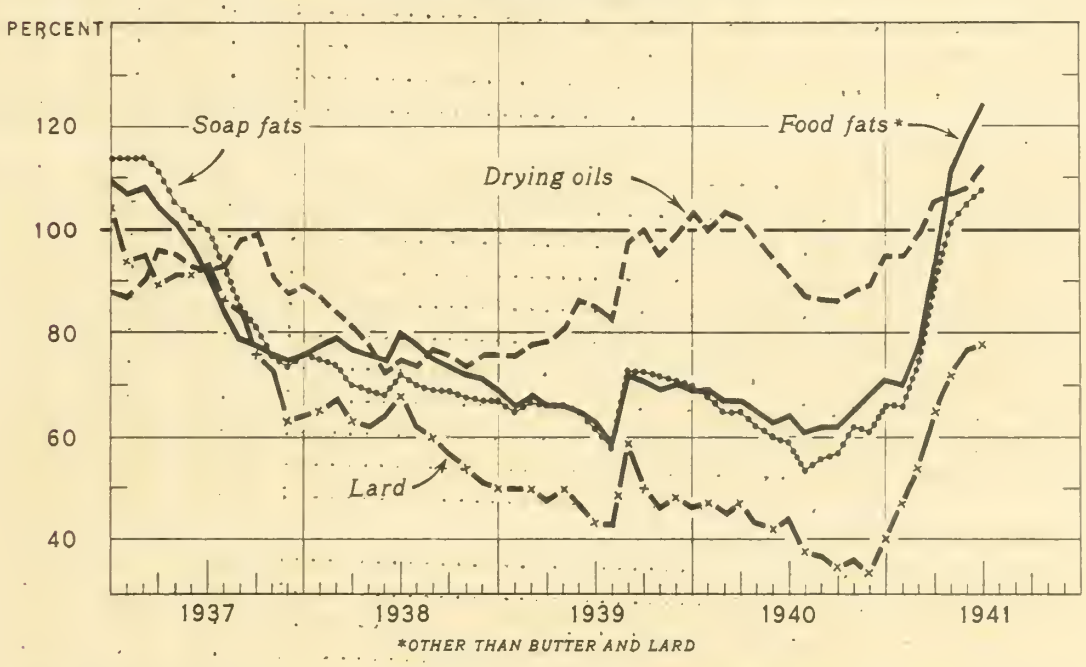

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 39447 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

IMPORTS OF OILSEEDS AND OILS WERE REDUCED IN THE FIRST 7 MONTHS OF 1941 BECAUSE OF THE SHIPPING SHORTAGE. THIS, TOGETHER WITH IMPROVED DOMESTIC DEMAND FOR CONSUMPTION AND STORAGE, GOVERNMENT PURCHASES OF LARD AND DAIRY PRODUCTS, AND RISING SHIPPING COSTS, RESULTED IN SHARP ADVANCES IN PRICES OF FATS AND OILS PARTICULARLY FOR ITEMS THAT WERE LOW IN PRICE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR. (FOR DATA SEE TABLE 3.)

Table 1.- Price per pound of specified fats, oils, and glycerine, July 1939 and 1940, May-July 1941

Item	July 1939	July 1940	1941 May	1941 June	1941 July
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Butter, 92-score, Chicago	23.2	26.5	34.7	35.4	34.3
Butter, 92-score, New York	23.8	27.0	35.5	35.6	34.8
Oleomargarine, dom. veg., Chicago	14.5	15.0	14.5	15.0	15.7
Compounds (animal and veg. cooking fats), Chicago	8.8	9.2	13.0	13.8	14.8
Lard, prime steam, tierces, Chicago	5.7	5.8	9.5	10.1	10.2
Lard, refined, cartons, Chicago	6.6	6.2	9.8	10.6	10.9
Oleo oil, extra, tierces, Chicago	7.2	7.0	9.8	10.5	10.4
Oleostearine, bbl., N. Y.	5.7	5.5	9.6	9.9	9.8
Tallow, edible, Chicago	4.7	4.2	8.2	8.2	8.1
Corn oil, crude, tanks, f.o.b. mills	5.3	5.4	9.9	11.3	11.9
Corn oil, refined, bbl., N. Y.	8.6	8.4	12.6	13.9	15.1
Cottonseed oil, crude, tanks, f.o.b. S.E. mills	5.0	5.4	9.2	10.4	10.6
Cottonseed oil, p.s.y., tank cars, N. Y.	6.1	6.0	10.5	11.5	11.8
Peanut oil, crude, tanks, f.o.b. mills	5.2	5.8	9.5	10.3	11.1
Peanut oil, dom. refined, bbl., N. Y.	8.9	8.9	12.5	13.9	---
Soybean oil, crude, tank cars, midwestern mills	4.3	4.7	8.7	9.6	9.8
Soybean oil, dom., crude, drums, N. Y.	5.9	6.2	10.4	11.5	12.3
Soybean oil, refined, drums, N. Y.	7.2	7.1	11.1	11.9	12.7
Babassu oil, tanks, f.o.b. mills, Pacific Coast	---	---	9.2	8.8	9.1
Coconut oil, crude, tanks, f.o.b. Pacific Coast 1/	5.7	5.5	9.4	9.1	9.2
Coconut oil, edible, drums, N. Y.	8.4	7.6	12.3	13.0	13.0
Olive oil, edible, drums, N. Y.	25.1	30.7	63.7	62.8	72.7
Olive oil, inedible, drums, N. Y.	10.9	19.2	47.5	45.1	52.3
Olive-oil foots, prime, drums, N. Y.	6.9	9.0	14.8	16.8	17.0
Palm oil, Niger, crude, drums, N. Y. 1/	6.7	7.4	9.0	9.0	9.9
Palm oil, Sumatra, bulk, N. Y. 1/	5.7	5.4	8.6	8.7	9.5
Rape oil, refined, denatured, drums, N. Y.	10.8	15.0	12.2	13.3	15.2
Rape oil, blown, bbl., N. Y.	14.2	17.5	17.0	16.9	17.5
Teaseed oil, crude, drums, N. Y.	9.5	12.5	18.6	20.2	22.7
Tallow, inedible, Chicago	4.4	3.8	7.5	7.5	7.6
Grease, A white, Chicago	4.5	3.8	7.6	7.6	7.8
Menhaden oil, crude, tanks, f.o.b. Baltimore	3.5	4.7	6.7	7.1	7.8
Sardine oil, crude, tanks, Pacific Coast	3.6	5.0	7.3	7.5	8.0
Whale oil, refined, bleached winter, drums, N. Y.	8.0	9.5	9.9	9.9	10.5
Linseed oil, raw, tank cars, Minneapolis	8.4	8.7	9.9	9.8	10.4
Linseed oil, raw, drums, carlots, N. Y.	9.1	9.3	10.9	10.9	11.4
Perilla oil, drums, N. Y.	11.1	18.8	18.6	18.9	20.0
Oiticica oil, drums, N. Y.	15.0	18.0	19.2	20.2	20.6
Tung oil, drums, N. Y.	21.9	25.6	31.0	32.0	32.2
Castor oil, No. 3 bbl., N. Y.	8.2	12.2	11.0	11.1	11.5
Castor oil, dehydrated, drums, carlots, N. Y.	---	15.7	15.0	15.3	15.7
Cod-liver oil, med. U.S.P. bbl., N.Y. (dol. per bbl.)	20.5	67.5	82.5	82.5	82.5
Cod oil, Newfoundland, bbl., (drums) N.Y.	4.3	---	10.0	10.0	10.5
Glycerin, soaplye, 80 percent basis, tanks, N. Y.	7.8	8.0	8.2	9.0	11.1

Compiled from Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter, The National Provisioner, and reports of the Agricultural Marketing Service and Bureau of Labor Statistics. Prices quoted include excise taxes and duties where applicable. 1/ Three-cent processing tax added to price as originally quoted.

THE FATS AND OILS SITUATION

Summary

With an indicated 14-percent reduction in the cottonseed crop, and with hog marketings running somewhat under those of a year earlier, production of cottonseed oil and lard is expected to be smaller in the last 6 months of this year than last. Output of linseed oil, soybean oil, butter, and certain other fats and oils, however, probably will be increased. Factory production of all fats and oils, including oils produced from imported oilseeds, was 9 percent larger in the first half of 1941 than a year earlier.

Despite the marked gain in output, stocks of fats and oils in the hands of manufacturers, importers, and exporters were reduced during the first half of 1941, and totaled 9 percent less on June 30 this year than last. Buying of finished articles containing fats and oils has been unusually active in recent months, and inventories of such goods in the hands of large distributors and consumers are believed to be large.

The general level for prices of fats and oils in July, at 90 percent of the 1924-29 average, was 48 percent higher than a year earlier but was unchanged from June. Prices of butter and edible beef fats declined slightly from June to July, but prices for most other items advanced, with edible olive oil showing the most pronounced gain. Prices for oilcake meals advanced sharply in late June and in July. Prices for domestic oilseeds also advanced in that period. Average prices received by farmers for cottonseed and soybeans on July 15 were roughly 60 and 80 percent higher than a year earlier, while peanut and flaxseed prices were about 20 percent higher.

New-crop flaxseed is now being marketed. With a strong demand for linseed oil for use in paints and varnishes, flaxseed crushing requirements in the 1941-42 season are expected to exceed those in 1940-41, when crushings were the largest in 12 years. No marked rise in flaxseed prices is in prospect, however, unless imports from South America are materially reduced by lack of shipping, or unless price-supporting measures are undertaken by the Government. The exportable surplus of flaxseed in Argentina and Uruguay now totals more than 40 million bushels, with the United States the only remaining large market. The domestic flaxseed crop for 1941 is forecast at 30,711,000 bushels, equivalent to slightly more than two-thirds of probable domestic requirements in the current season.

-- August 14, 1941

REVIEW OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

BACKGROUND.- Mainly because of increases in world supplies, prices of most fats and oils declined to unusually low levels immediately preceding the outbreak of the present war, although difficulties in obtaining tung oil from China resulted in price gains for drying oils early in 1939. Prices of all fats and oils advanced in September 1939. But except for drying oils and butter, most of the gains subsequently were lost, with the declines being especially marked following the closing of important European markets and the stoppage of lard shipments to the United Kingdom in the spring of 1940.

The shipping shortage that developed early in 1941, and increases in shipping rates, have had essentially the same effect as the imposition of import quotas or the raising of tariff schedules would have had; that is, restricting the volume of imports and thus driving a wedge between prices in the United States and in surplus-producing areas, raising the former and lowering the latter. This influence, together with improved domestic demand for consumption and storage, and Government purchases of lard and dairy products, resulted in sharp advances in domestic prices of fats and oils during the first half of 1941, particularly for items that were low in price at the beginning of the year. Further improvement in domestic demand is in prospect, which, barring Government price control, should have the effect of

raising prices both here and abroad. Any additional deterioration in the ocean shipping situation for fats and oils would contribute still more to price advances in this country; a marked improvement in shipping, on the other hand, would have the opposite effect.

Prices of fats and oils little changed in July

The index of prices for all fats and oils in July, at 90 percent of the 1924-29 average, was the same as a month earlier, but was 29 points (48 percent) higher than a year earlier. Average prices for butter and edible beef fats and oils in July were slightly lower than in June. These reductions were offset, however, by moderate advances in prices of other fats and oils. The most pronounced gain for the month occurred in the price of edible olive oil, up 16 percent from June. Gains of about 10 percent were recorded for prices of menhaden oil, teaseed oil, palm oil, and rape oil.

Except for castor oil, prices of all fats and oils were higher in July this year than last. The most striking gains from a year earlier were in prices of olive oil, corn oil, and inedible tallow and greases, up 100 percent or more. Most items were 50 to 100 percent higher. Notable exceptions were butter, up 29 percent, and drying oils and cod-liver oil, which were up 6 to 26 percent from the comparatively high levels prevailing for those oils in July last year. The price of dehydrated castor oil in July was about the same as a year earlier.

Reflecting improvement in demand from livestock feeders, and increased prices for other feedstuffs, prices of domestic oilcake meals at leading markets in July (excluding linseed meal at New York) averaged $4 to $6 per ton higher than in June, and were $5 to $12 per ton higher than in July 1940. Normally, large quantities of linseed cake and meal produced in East Coast mills from imported flaxseed are exported to northwestern Europe. With this market now cut off, supplies of linseed meal in the northeast have been unusually large. The price of 34-percent protein linseed meal at New York in July, at $28.30 per ton, was nearly $4 lower than the price of 37-percent protein meal at Minneapolis, but was $2.85 per ton higher than a month earlier and $2.40 higher than a year earlier.

Prices of domestic oilseeds advanced in July, when they were substantially higher than a year earlier. Marketings were limited, however. Prices of imported castor beans and copra declined slightly in July, but castor beans at New York, averaging $70.40 per long ton, were nearly 50 percent higher, while the price of copra at Pacific Coast markets, averaging $3.72 per 100 pounds, was 135 percent higher than a year earlier.

Production of most fats and oils increased in first half of 1941

For the first 6 months of 1941, factory production of fats and oils, including creamery butter, totaled nearly 4.6 billion pounds, 9

percent more than the 4.2 billion pounds produced in the corresponding period of 1940.1/ Lard production was 6 percent smaller than a year earlier, and the output of coconut oil was 10 percent smaller. A major reduction in output of whale oil occurred, with practically none being produced domestically during the first half of 1941; production of babassu oil, fish oils, and neat's-foot oil showed minor decreases. These reductions, however, were more than offset by increases in other items.

Reflecting the comparatively large output of field crops in 1940, factory production of crude cottonseed oil was 139 million pounds larger in the first 6 months this year than last, production of linseed oil was 101 million pounds larger, and production of peanut oil was 88 million pounds larger. The output of creamery butter showed a gain of 65 million pounds (7 percent). Production of olive oil, corn oil, castor oil, edible beef fats, and soybean oil was up 7 to 18 million pounds. Output of inedible tallow and greases also showed gains. It had been expected that grease production would decline as a result of reduced hog marketings, but apparently a higher than usual proportion of inedible fats is being recovered in packing plants and rendering establishments under the stimulus of the comparatively high prices prevailing this year.

Present indications point to reduced output of lard and cottonseed oil during the second half of 1941 compared with a year earlier. However, if crop conditions continue reasonably favorable, the production of linseed oil and soybean oil is likely to be substantially increased. Production of butter, beef fats, and fish oils may also be larger than in the last 6 months of 1940.

Primary stocks of fats and oils reduced

The increases in factory production of fats and oils for the first 6 months of 1941 compared with 1940, amounting to nearly 400 million pounds, was considerably greater than the reduction in imports.2/ Nevertheless, factory and warehouse stocks declined during the 6-month period, and on June 30 such stocks, totaling approximately 2,237 million pounds, were 211 million pounds (9 percent) smaller than a year earlier. The decline in stocks was largely the result of increased demand for manufactured products containing fats and oils. Part of the increase in takings of processed fats, however, appears to have been the result of buying by large distributors and consumers for the purpose of expanding inventories. Data on stocks of such items as cooking fats, salad oils and dressings,

1/ Bureau of the Census and Agricultural Marketing Service (butter). Totals include estimates for unreported production of inedible tallow and greases in small rendering plants and on farms, but are not complete with respect to lard and butter.

2/ Data on foreign trade for June 1941 were not available when this report was prepared. Imports of fats and oils (excluding oilseeds) for the first 5 months of 1941 totaled 328 million pounds, 48 million pounds less than in the corresponding period of 1940. Exports, including reexports of items imported free of duty or tax, totaled 172 million pounds, about the same as a year earlier.

soap, paints, etc. in the hands of distributors and consumers are not available, but such stocks probably constitute a substantial reserve supply of fats.

As a reflection of the active demand for cottonseed oil, manufacturers' stocks of that commodity were 211 million pounds smaller (crude basis) on June 30 this year than last. Stocks of marine animal oils were down about 45 million pounds, and stocks of inedible tallow and greases, excluding wool grease, were down 33 million pounds. Manufacturers' and importers' supplies of tung oil, palm oil, coconut oil, and soybean oil on June 30 were 20 to 26 million pounds smaller than a year earlier. On the other hand, stocks of linseed oil, peanut oil, butter, and lard in first hands were 18 to 76 million pounds larger on June 30 this year than last (table 4).

Manufacturers' stocks of processed fats and oils and derived products on June 30, including shortening, hydrogenated oils, various fatty acids, and glycerin, were not greatly different from those of a year earlier, although as a group they totaled slightly less than last year.

Mill stocks of oilseeds were about 85 million pounds larger in terms of crude oil on June 30 this year than last. The most pronounced increase was in supplies of cottonseed, with 190,000 tons on hand June 30 this year compared with 63,000 tons a year earlier. Mill stocks of castor beans, soybeans, and flaxseed also were larger than a year earlier, but copra stocks were reduced.

Indicated cottonseed, peanut and flaxseed crops smaller than in 1940; record soybean crop in prospect

The 1941 cotton crop, on the basis of August 1 indications, is forecast at 10,817,000 bales. Approximately 0.444 tons of cottonseed are produced per bale of cotton. If the August 1 indications are borne out, the production of cottonseed this year would be about 4,803,000 tons compared with 5,595,000 tons in 1940 and 5,890,000 tons, the 10-year (1930-39) average.

The peanut crop this year also is expected to be smaller than a year earlier, although larger than the average for other recent years. Peanut acreage is indicated to be about 5 percent smaller this year than last in all areas, and the indicated yields per acre are lower in most States than the high yields obtained last year. Production of peanuts picked and threshed is forecast at 1,487 million pounds compared with the record production of 1,734 million pounds in 1940 (revised estimate) and the 10-year (1930-39) average production of 1,063 million pounds.

The flaxseed crop is now estimated at 30,711,000 bushels, only 1.6 percent less than the near-record crop produced in 1940. Acreage for harvest is indicated to be about the same as a year earlier, but the average yield is placed at 9.5 bushels per acre compared with the high yield of 9.7 bushels obtained in 1940.

As a result of a special survey made by the Crop Reporting Board, the acreage of soybeans to be harvested for beans in the 8 principal soybean-producing States is placed at 5,112,000 acres, an increase of 12 percent over the 4,565,000 acres harvested for beans in those States in 1940. The average condition for the crop on August 1 was only 1 point below the record condition on that date in 1939. The prospective production of soybeans for all States is tentatively estimated at 109 million bushels, which would be about 29 million bushels larger than in 1940 and 18 million bushels larger than the previous record crop in 1939.

THE FLAXSEED SITUATION

Domestic consumption of flaxseed in the 1940-41 marketing year totaled 38 to 39 million bushels, according to preliminary calculations. Crushings, amounting to 36.6 million bushels, were the largest since 1928-29. Approximately 1.9 million bushels was used for seed (table 2).

Flaxseed requirements for the 1941-42 season, which began about July 1, are estimated at 42 to 45 million bushels on the basis of present indications as to seed requirements and the probable demand for linseed oil from the paint and varnish industry. Both public and private building operations are proceeding at high levels, and a high rate of building activity well into 1942 seems assured. Repainting activities apparently have not as yet been seriously affected by rising costs. The industrial demand for paints and varnishes, including demand for use on military equipment, has increased sharply in recent months, and further increases are in prospect. An addition stimulant to the demand for linseed oil is the growing shortage of tung oil, perilla oil, and synthetic resins.

According to the August 1 crop report, domestic production of flaxseed in 1941 will total about 30,711,000 bushels. If it is assumed that the carry-over of flaxseed on July 1, 1942 will be about the same as the comparatively large supply on hand July 1 this year, imports of 11 to 14 million bushels of flaxseed would be needed to complete the requirements of the crushing industry. Imports of this magnitude would not be greatly different from those in the 1940-41 season, but would be somewhat smaller than average imports for other recent years.

The exportable surplus of flaxseed in Argentina and Uruguay on July 1 totaled approximately 45 million bushels, according to recent information. The United States is now the principal market for this seed. Additional supplies of flaxseed in Argentina and Uruguay will become available in late December and in January when the new crop is harvested. Canada, which has been on an importing basis for flaxseed in recent years, is reported to have expanded its flax acreage materially this year. Part of the increased acreage, however, consists of fiber flax and, with drought in the western flax area, it is doubtful if much flaxseed will be available for export in Canada this season.

Flaxseed price outlook uncertain

The price outlook for flaxseed is clouded by several uncertainties. Despite the strong demand in prospect for flaxseed in 1941-42, no pronounced advance in flaxseed prices seems likely unless shipping space for flaxseed is materially reduced, or unless price-supporting measures are undertaken by the Government. The shortage of shipping space for oilseeds and oils at the present time is confined largely to Pacific Ocean routes. Flaxseed shipments from Argentina and Uruguay in recent months have been adequate to meet needs in this country, and have shown considerable regularity. Flaxseed prices in the United States are at a much higher level than prices in Argentina and Uruguay as a result of the import duty of 65 cents per bushel and the prevailing high rates for ocean shipment. The duty may be reduced if present negotiations for trade agreements with Argentina and Uruguay are successfully concluded. Shipping rates also are subject to change.

The average price received by farmers for flaxseed in the 1940-41 marketing season was approximately $1.38 per bushel (preliminary estimate). The average farm price in mid-July this year was estimated at $1.71 per bushel compared with $1.44 in mid-July 1940, a gain of 19 percent. This percentage change was about in line with changes in prices of linseed and linseed meal at Minneapolis and New York.

Table 2.- Flaxseed: Production, imports, stocks July 1, apparent disappearance, seed requirements, crushings, and linseed oil produced, 1923-41

Year beginning July	Production	Imports	Stocks at end of period: Factory	Stocks at end of period: Market	Stocks at end of period: Farm	Stocks at end of period: Total	Total apparent disappearance	Estimated seed requirements for following year	Crushings	Linseed oil produced
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 pounds
1923	16,563	19,577	1,209	141	506	1,856	37,782	1,864	36,201	673,918
1924	31,220	13,419	2,256	617	1,100	3,973	42,522	1,633	40,724	751,340
1925	22,334	19,354	2,707	1,304	702	4,713	40,948	1,551	38,037	703,855
1926	18,531	24,224	3,490	1,445	715	5,650	41,818	1,491	40,582	749,947
1927	25,174	18,112	3,034	781	355	4,170	44,766	1,430	43,243	810,603
1928	19,118	23,494	3,605	434	980	5,019	41,763	1,738	39,395	737,533
1929	15,924	19,652	2,328	433	461	3,222	37,373	2,317	35,304	651,038
1930	21,673	7,813	1,198	802	483	2,483	30,225	1,959	27,054	488,545
1931	11,755	13,849	1,459	901	540	2,900	25,187	1,422	23,700	438,763
1932	11,511	6,213	854	960	286	2,100	18,524	990	17,370	318,120
1933	6,904	17,901	1,421	646	446	2,513	24,392	871	23,006	442,796
1934	5,661	15,332	1,464	344	373	2,181	21,325	1,278	20,720	404,060
1935	14,520	15,388	2,222	743	366	3,331	28,758	1,369	26,344	505,530
1936	5,273	26,096	2,484	630	225	3,339	31,361	731	30,340	587,093
1937	7,089	17,861	1,472	552	175	2,199	26,090	588	25,870	504,810
1938	8,152	18,744	1,958	285	53	2,296	26,799	1,360	25,569	501,545
1939	20,152	13,212	3,148	665	98	3,911	31,749	1,898	30,078	579,056
1940 1/	31,217	11,198	3,501	2,121				1,859	36,645	707,256
1941	2/ 30,711									

Compiled as follows:

Production, market and farm stocks, and seed requirements, Agricultural Marketing Service.
Imports, Monthly Summary of Foreign Commerce of the United States.
Factory stocks, crushings, and linseed oil produced, Bureau of the Census.
Apparent disappearance computed from data on production, imports, and stocks.

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Indicated August 1.

Table 3.- Index numbers of prices of fats and oils grouped according to use, by months, 1937-41
(1924-29 = 100)

Year and month	All fats and oils	Butter	Lard	Food fats other than butter and lard	Soap fats	Drying oils	Miscellaneous oils
1937							
Jan.	88	75	104	109	114	88	79
Feb.	87	76	94	107	114	87	80
Mar.	89	80	95	108	114	90	80
Apr.	83	71	89	104	111	96	81
May	81	69	91	101	105	95	82
June	80	68	91	97	102	93	82
July	80	70	93	91	100	1/ 92	82
Aug.	79	73	86	84	93	94	82
Sept.	81	78	84	79	85	98	82
Oct.	80	79	76	78	81	1/ 99	82
Nov.	81	84	73	76	76	91	81
Dec.	80	85	63	75	74	1/ 88	81
Average	82	76	87	92	97	93	81
1938							
Jan.	74	74	64	76	76	89	77
Feb.	71	69	65	78	75	87	77
Mar.	70	67	67	1/ 79	74	84	76
Apr.	66	61	63	77	70	81	75
May	64	58	62	76	69	78	75
June	63	58	64	75	68	73	74
July	65	58	68	80	72	75	73
Aug.	64	58	62	78	70	74	69
Sept.	63	58	60	75	69	77	69
Oct.	62	58	57	74	69	76	69
Nov.	63	60	54	72	68	74	68
Dec.	64	62	51	71	67	76	69
Average	66	62	61	76	71	79	73
1939							
Jan.	61	58	50	69	67	76	66
Feb.	60	58	50	66	65	76	67
Mar.	58	54	50	68	67	78	65
Apr.	56	50	48	66	66	79	64
May	57	52	50	66	66	81	63
June	58	54	47	65	65	1/ 86	63
July	56	53	43	63	62	1/ 85	63
Aug.	55	54	43	59	58	83	64
Sept.	67	63	59	72	73	97	67
Oct.	67	65	50	71	73	100	86
Nov.	67	67	46	69	72	95	95
Dec.	68	67	48	70	71	99	99
Average	61	58	49	67	67	86	72

Continued -

Table 3.- Index numbers of prices of fats and oils grouped according to use, by months, 1937-41 - Continued
(1924-29 = 100)

Year and month	All fats and oils	Butter	Lard	Food fats other than butter and lard	Soap fats	Drying oils	Miscellaneous oils
1940							
Jan.	69	70	46	69	70	103	102
Feb.	67	66	47	69	68	100	102
Mar.	65	64	45	67	65	103	100
Apr.	64	62	47	67	65	102	100
May	62	60	43	65	62	99	101
June	61	60	42	63	60	95	101
July	61	60	44	64	59	91	98
Aug.	60	62	38	61	54	87	92
Sept.	61	63	37	62	56	86	91
Oct.	63	67	35	62	57	86	86
Nov.	68	74	36	65	62	88	84
Dec.	70	78	34	68	61	89	84
Average	64	66	41	65	62	94	95
1941							
Jan.	67	69	40	71	66	95	84
Feb.	68	68	47	70	66	95	85
Mar.	72	70	54	78	75	99	86
Apr.	79	74	65	93	90	105	88
May	87	79	72	111	101	107	93
June	90	81	77	118	105	108	96
July	90	78	78	124	108	112	102

Data beginning 1922 are given in U. S. Department of Agriculture Technical Bulletin No. 737, Wholesale Prices of Fats and Oils in the United States: Index numbers, 1910-39.

1/ Revised.

Table 4.- Production and stocks of specified fats and crude oils in the United States, 1939-41

Item	Factory production, January-June			Factory and warehouse stocks (in terms of crude oil 1/)			
	1939	1940	1941	December 31, 1939	June 30, 1940	December 31, 1940	June 30, 1941
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Butter	945.0	946.2	1,010.8	55.5	81.0	41.5	120.2
Lard, including rendered pork fat	672.1	889.2	832.7	162.1	306.8	294.1	382.5
Neatsfoot oil	2.4	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5
Oleo oil	36.6	33.5	43.9	6.6	6.3	5.3	8.3
Oleostearine	19.2	16.6	21.7	4.4	4.5	4.7	5.5
Oleo stock 2/	1.3	.9	3/	---	---	---	---
Tallow, edible	47.9	41.4	41.5	8.1	8.2	6.8	9.5
Tallow, inedible and greases, excluding wool grease	4/545.6	4/733.3	3/	296.5	432.3	430.9	398.9
Wool grease	2.6	3.2	7.0	4.6	4.3	6.9	6.9
Cod and cod-liver oil	.7	.5	.7	33.7	23.1	13.8	14.4
Fish oil	35.5	24.3	21.4	167.0	86.3	132.5	70.2
Marine mammal oil	23.9	19.3	.1	44.5	59.0	53.2	39.0
Babassu oil	36.8	35.6	28.3	6.2	9.4	7.8	6.4
Castor oil	35.0	53.3	66.1	12.4	21.6	20.9	15.4
Coconut oil	141.8	186.3	167.3	191.0	218.7	258.0	192.4
Corn oil	68.8	82.1	93.5	34.8	26.3	21.2	25.5
Cottonseed oil	577.7	521.6	660.9	777.2	661.2	671.5	449.9
Linseed oil	264.0	278.6	379.6	142.5	132.8	153.8	150.9
Olive oil, edible	6.4	1.2	8.2	8.8	9.1	10.0	7.8
Olive-oil foots	---	---	---	14.5	17.6	21.6	14.8
Olive oil, inedible	---	---	---	3.3	3.7	2.6	1.5
Palm-kernel oil 5/	2.9	6.8	3/	1.1	1.8	2.6	5.9
Palm oil	---	---	---	133.4	141.2	155.7	118.8
Peanut oil	60.3	21.0	108.9	21.3	20.1	43.6	57.2
Perilla oil 5/	1.5	---	3/	15.2	4.9	7.0	8.9
Rape oil	---	---	---	6.5	4.9	6.5	8.1
Sesame oil 5/	1.9	4.3	3/	.2	.3	1.9	.7
Soybean oil	226.8	275.0	293.3	71.6	103.9	94.6	78.1
Tung oil	3.0	.7	1.0	31.4	57.2	57.1	37.4
Other oils 6/	2.2	2.0	3/				
Total 7/	3,762.1	4,178.9	8/4,570.0	2,255.9	2,448.2	2,527.7	2,236.9

Continued -

Table 4.- Production and stocks of specified fats and crude oils in the United States, 1939-41 - Continued

Compiled as follows:

Production, Bureau of the Census, except butter, Agricultural Marketing Service, and tung oil for 1939 and 1940, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

Stocks, Bureau of the Census, except for butter and lard which are from cold storage reports, Agricultural Marketing Service.

1/ Crude plus refined converted to crude basis. Refined oils have been converted to crude basis by dividing by the following factors: Babassu oil, corn oil, cottonseed oil, palm-kernel oil, and palm oil, 0.93; coconut oil, peanut oil, and soybean oil, 0.94.

2/ Exports.

3/ Complete data not available.

4/ Total apparent production computed from reported factory consumption, stocks, and foreign trade.

5/ Oil equivalent of imported raw material.

6/ Murumuru-kernel oil and tucum-kernel oil.

7/ Totals of unrounded numbers.

8/ Partly estimated.

Table 5.- Wholesale prices of fats and oils: Index numbers, July 1939 and 1940, May-July 1941

(1924-29 = 100)

Group	July 1939	July 1940	1941 May	1941 June	1941 July
Eight domestic fats and oils 1/	73	79	113	116	116
Eight domestic fats and oils	52	56	80	2/ 82	82
All fats and oils (27 items)	56	61	87	90	90
Grouped by origin					
Animal fats	51	57	79	81	79
Marine animal oils	65	88	107	108	115
Vegetable oils, domestic	63	62	98	106	109
Vegetable oils, foreign	81	88	128	131	139
Grouped by use					
Butter	53	60	79	81	78
Butter, adjusted 3/	57	65	86	88	84
Lard	43	44	72	77	78
Food fats, other	63	64	111	118	124
Soap fats	62	59	101	105	108
Drying oils	85	91	107	108	112
Miscellaneous oils	63	98	93	96	102

1/ 1910-14 = 100. 2/ Revised. 3/ Adjusted for typical seasonal variation.

Table 6.- Prices of specified oil-bearing materials, July 1939 and 1940, May-July 1941

Item	Unit	July 1939	July 1940	1941 May	1941 June	1941 July
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Castor beans, Brazilian, ship't., c. & f., New York	Long ton	---	48.00	65.60	71.25	70.38
Copra, bags, f.o.b. Pacific Coast	100 lb.	1.67	1.58	3.90	3.75	3.72
Cottonseed, U.S. farm price	Short ton	20.70	22.60	27.67	29.58	35.90
Flaxseed, No. 1, Minneapolis	Bu.	1.57	1.58	1.87	1.87	1.92
Flaxseed, U.S. farm price	"	1.39	1.44	1.68	1.64	1.71
Peanuts, shelled, Runners No. 1, S.E. mills	100 lb.	4.95	4.70	5.50	6.00	6.70
Peanuts, U.S. farm price	" "	3.38	3.42	3.65	4.01	4.16
Soybeans, No. 2 Yellow, Chicago	Bu.	.90	.82	1.32	1.39	1.50
Soybeans, U.S. farm price	"	.75	.73	1.19	1.23	1.30

Compiled from Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter, Daily Trade Bulletin (Chicago), Daily Market Record (Minneapolis), and reports of the Agricultural Marketing Service.

Table 7.- Price per ton of specified oilcake meals, July 1939 and 1940, May-July 1941

Item 1/	July 1939	July 1940	1941 May	1941 June	1941 July
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Copra meal, Los Angeles	24.80	19.75	35.70	35.80	36.20
Cottonseed meal, 41 percent protein, Memphis	21.55	25.55	25.10	26.50	31.00
Cottonseed meal, 41 percent protein, Chicago	27.75	31.60	30.80	32.40	36.60
Linseed meal, 37 percent protein, Minneapolis	33.10	24.30	27.10	28.20	32.00
Linseed meal, 34 percent protein, New York	38.75	25.90	24.55	25.45	28.30
Peanut meal, 45 percent protein, f.o.b. southeastern mills	21.00	24.40	23.28	24.88	30.60
Soybean meal, 41 percent protein, Chicago	24.70	22.25	28.10	29.70	33.80

Compiled from records of the Agricultural Marketing Service.

1/ Bagged, carlots, except peanut meal.

Table 8.- Production and stocks of butter, lard, rendered pork fat, cottonseed oil, and peanut oil, June 1939 and 1940, April-June 1941

Item	June 1939	June 1940	1941 Apr.	1941 May	1941 June 1/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Production					
Creamery butter	202.5	205.4	163.5	215.6	214.7
Lard, under Federal inspection	103.5	121.5	113.3	125.2	102.7
Rendered pork fat 2/	---	---	12.4	14.5	13.0
Cottonseed oil, crude	34.3	19.4	102.2	66.3	42.5
Peanut oil, crude	7.3	2.0	15.2	17.5	7.1
Stocks, end of month					
Butter	131.6	81.0	17.8	56.8	120.2
Lard	148.4	306.8	321.1	366.1	374.7
Rendered pork fat 2/	---	---	6.6	7.8	7.8
Cottonseed oil, crude basis 3/	752.4	661.2	640.1	551.3	449.9
Peanut oil, crude basis 3/	52.3	20.1	---	---	57.2

Compiled as follows:

Production of creamery butter and peanut oil, and cold-storage holdings of butter, lard and rendered pork fat, Agricultural Marketing Service.

Production under Federal inspection of lard and rendered pork fat, Bureau of Animal Industry.

Factory production and stocks of cottonseed oil, and stocks of peanut oil, Bureau of the Census.

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Included with lard prior to November 1940.
3/ Crude plus refined converted to crude basis by dividing by the following factors: Cottonseed oil, 0.93; peanut oil, 0.94.

Table 9.- Oleomargarine: Production and materials used in manufacture, United States, June 1939 and 1940, April-June 1941

Item	June 1939	June 1940	1941 1/ Apr.	1941 1/ May	1941 1/ June
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
Production:					
Colored	80	282	413	1,388	300
Uncolored	21,046	19,588	2/31,766	26,304	24,783
Total 3/	21,126	19,870	32,179	27,693	25,083
Materials used:					
Oleo oil	1,009	900	1,402	1,439	1,146
Oleostearine	260	236	361	257	231
Lard, neutral	85	423	885	635	498
Oleo stock	114	70	84	78	105
Beef fat	15	---	---	---	---
Monostearine	---	---	14	13	9
Total animal	1,483	1,629	2,746	2,422	1,989
Cottonseed oil	6,708	7,392	12,896	11,444	10,816
Soybean oil	5,470	4,463	8,422	6,898	5,546
Peanut oil	167	137	159	167	159
Corn oil	21	10	38	39	36
Cottonseed stearine	---	2	1	5	---
Soybean stearine	---	1	---	1	---
Total domestic, vegetable	12,366	12,005	21,516	18,554	16,557
Coconut oil	2,129	1,575	1,382	1,468	1,435
Babassu oil	1,106	683	211	---	---
Palm oil	---	3	31	8	247
Total foreign, vegetable	3,235	2,261	1,624	1,476	1,682
Total fats and oils	17,084	15,895	25,886	22,452	20,228
Milk	4,112	3,811	6,016	5,102	4,627
Salt and other miscellaneous	989	878	1,227	1,050	937

Compiled from Internal Revenue records and Internal Revenue Bulletins.

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Includes manufacturers' returns not available for other reports.
3/ Total of unrounded numbers.